

City of Killeen

WHEREAS Robert "Bob" Gray, a Killeen native and brave soldier, participated in the Doolittle Raid 77 years ago today; and

WHEREAS Gray received his wings in 1941 when he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army Air Corps, and he distinguished himself quickly as a top B-25 pilot; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Colonel James H. Doolittle selected Gray as one of 80 crew members to participate in the famous Doolittle Raid over Tokyo April 18, 1942 to deliver the first strikes against Japan in World War II; and

WHEREAS Gray successfully completed his mission but died six months later in the China-Burma Campaign, and though his service was short, his legacy remains as an American hero; and

WHEREAS Gray is part of Killeen's history and we continue to honor him to this day with Robert Gray Army Airfield on Fort Hood, Gray Street in downtown Killeen and in a historic display and bronze statue at Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport; and

WHEREAS Former Mayor R. T. Polk proclaimed April 18th Bob Gray Day in Killeen for the duration of time and ordered that "flags will fly from every socket and flag pole in the community, and the day will be set aside permanently as the memorial to a brave heart that winged its way into the very vitals of enemy territory and destroyed military objectives that were calculated to bring harm and destruction to our great country;" and

WHEREAS It is now my great honor as Mayor to continue the tradition of honoring Gray's legacy.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jose L. Segarra, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Killeen do hereby proclaim April 18, 2019 as:

Bob Gray Day

and encourage the citizens of Killeen to join me in honoring this local hero today and every day.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Killeen to be affixed this 9th day of April, 2019.

Jose L. Segarra, MAYOR